

Washington State Credentialing Requirements

Massage Practitioner (Chapter 18.108 RCW, 246-830 WAC)

Type of Credential:

License

DOH Contact:

Customer Service Center - 360-236-4700

Credentialing Requirements	Verification Documents Obtained
Completion of a Washington State Board of Massage approved education program –and– Successful completion of National Exam	Verification of Completion form stamped with the Program's Department of Health issued stamp received directly from the approved education program. Official Exam report from the NCBTMB or FSMTB
State licensure verification	Applicant lists all states where credentials are or were held, including where applicant has applied but a credential was not granted. A verification form must be completed and submitted by the jurisdiction where the applicant is or was credentialed. Applicant sends form to jurisdiction for completion. The jurisdiction sends completed form directly to the department.
Statement about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• physical and mental health status• lack of impairment due to chemical dependency/substance abuse• history of loss of license, certification or registration• felony convictions• loss or limitations of privileges• disciplinary actions• professional liability claims history	Applicant must answer personal data questions. An appropriate explanation and required documentation must be sent with positive answers. If there is a positive answer to the professional liability claims history question, the applicant must send an explanation of the nature of the case, data and summary of care given, copies of the original complaint, and the settlement or final disposition. If pending, applicant must indicate status.

Additional Information/Documents Required

- HIV/AIDS training - four hours
- Successful passing examination (NCBTMB) – National Certification Board or the MBLEX - Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards must send a copy of examination score report directly to the department
- First Aid and CPR cards or verification from an approved education program.

Process for Approving/Denying Applications

Credentialing staff review the application and supporting documents to make an initial determination on eligibility. Credentialing supervisors approve applications that do not have positive answers to personal data questions, have questionable verifying documents, or are otherwise “red flag” applications. Red flag applications are forwarded to the exception application process for determination by the appropriate disciplining authority. An applicant will be formally notified of a denial and has the opportunity for a hearing.

Renewal Requirements

Massage practitioners must renew their license every year on or before their birthday. Twenty-four hours of continuing education is due every two years on or before their birthday. Licensee is required to submit the appropriate fee, renewal card and an affidavit of compliance with the continuing education requirement.